

closely with many Members of Congress to gain support for an amendment that would ban the desecration of the American flag. I commend the Major General for his work and am confident he departs knowing the mission of the Alliance will continue due in no small part to his involvement and diligence.

I extend my best wishes to Major General Brady as he turns his attention toward his family. America will be forever indebted to him for his altruistic service to this great Nation.

TRIBUTE TO MOHAMMED H. QAYOUMI, PH.D., FOURTH PRESIDENT OF CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST BAY

### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2007

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mohammed H. Qayoumi, Ph.D., who assumed the presidency of Cal State University, East Bay on July 1, 2006. Dr. Qayoumi is the fourth president of the university and his formal investiture will take place at the Hayward, CA, campus of Cal State University, East Bay on June 1, 2007.

Prior to his employment at Cal State University, East Bay, President Qayoumi served as vice president for administration and finance and chief financial officer at California State University, Northridge. He was also a tenured professor of engineering management at the university.

President Qayoumi has also served as vice chancellor for administrative services and as adjunct professor at the University of Missouri-Rolla and was associate vice president for administration and an adjunct professor at Sari Jose State University. He has more than 27 years of experience in the service of higher education and industry.

He has a B.S. degree in electrical engineering from American University of Beirut, and MS. degrees in nuclear engineering, electrical and computer engineering, a well as an M.B.A. in finance and a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Cincinnati.

When President Qayoumi came to the United States in 1978, he was first employed as staff engineer at the University of Cincinnati, where he also held positions as director of technical services, director of utilities and engineering services and adjunct professor. Prior to 1978, President Qayoumi was employed as a communications engineer in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and as a project electrical engineer in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

President Qayoumi has published eight books, more than 85 articles and several chapters in various books. He has made presentations at numerous conferences across the United States and in 10 other countries on various topics in his areas of academic expertise.

He has served his native country of Afghanistan in various financial capacities, including minister of finance, and remains on several boards of directors, including the Central Bank of Afghanistan.

I am confident President Qayoumi will provide exemplary leadership to Cal State University and I join in wishing him every success.

IN MEMORY OF WAYNE STEVENS

### HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2007

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of Mr. Wayne Stevens, a proud member of the San Diego community and a fellow paratrooper who recently passed away at the age 64 from the effects of cancer.

Wayne's distinguished record of military service to this Nation is one of the finest examples of selflessness and courage. He served in Vietnam with Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion of the 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade, and was among the first soldiers to arrive in country from Okinawa in 1964. For his heroism in Vietnam, Wayne was awarded two Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart and the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry.

Madam Speaker, Ronald Reagan once said, "the willingness of our citizens to give freely and unselfishly of themselves, even their lives, in defense of our democratic principles, gives this great nation continued strength and vitality. From Valley Forge to Vietnam, through war and peace, valiant Americans have answered the call to duty with honor and dignity." In making these remarks, President Reagan was speaking directly to Americans like Wayne, who have so bravely and selflessly put their country before themselves and were always willing to make the ultimate sacrifice when they were needed most.

My prayers are with Wayne's devoted wife of 42 years, Donna, his daughter Jessica and two grandchildren, Sophia and Adolph, and I ask that my colleagues join me today in paying tribute to the life and memory of this true American hero.

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS CASSIDY

### HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2007

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a community leader, my friend, Dennis Cassidy, on his retirement after over 30 years of serving the people of Paso Robles, CA, most currently as chief of police.

Chief Cassidy began his law enforcement career with the Paso Robles Police Department in 1974. In 1985, Cassidy was promoted to patrol sergeant and in 1988, he became Detective Bureau commander. In 1990, he was promoted to Lieutenant, and was responsible for seeking grants to further the department's Community Outreach Program through the early 1990s. His success led to the establishment of a satellite police office, in cooperation with the Housing Authority, where two officers were assigned to work full-time. The results were remarkable. Criminal activity dropped, community and police relationships strengthened, and a safer Paso Robles gave families increased peace of mind. In 1997, Cassidy was named chief of police, a position he has held since, until his retirement.

During his tenure as chief, Cassidy was instrumental in planning the new Public Safety Center in Paso Robles. This center was put to

the test after the San Simeon earthquake in December 2003. This earthquake caused massive damage to Paso Robles and took the lives of two Paso Robles residents. The center immediately served as a staging area as Cassidy and other members of the Paso Robles Emergency Services coordinated initial rescue and recovery efforts. Later, the building was used by many different agencies brought in to assist with recovery.

Chief Cassidy has been in the forefront of exploring new technologies, which has resulted in the Paso Robles Police Department being equipped with innovative technology to help combat crime and ensure the safety of the community and residents. Specifically, Chief Cassidy was responsible for the Department obtaining its Computer Aided Dispatching and Records Management Systems, as well as Livescan fingerprinting and digital in-car video with wireless station-server download capability.

Serving his community is not something Chief Cassidy only does on-duty; he is very involved while he is off-duty. Chief Cassidy is a past commissioner of the Children and Families Commission of San Luis Obispo County, the local agency administering State tax revenue to fund education, childcare, health and other programs for expectant parents and toddlers. He also served as president of the North County Women's Resource Center, which assists women and families against domestic violence and abuse. Finally, he is active as a Paul Harris Fellow in the local Rotary, and a member of the San Luis Obispo Cattlemen's Association.

Chief Cassidy exemplifies how one can answer the call of duty to protect and serve his fellow neighbors, and do it with great passion, strength, and devotion to his community. His shoes will be tough to fill as he raised the police department's level of excellence and outstanding conduct, and has forged a relationship of trust with the community his officers serve and protect. I know Chief Cassidy looks forward to his retirement and spending time with friends and family. I commend his service to the city of Paso Robles and wish him the best as he enters into the next stage of his life.

HONORING THE LIFE OF UNITED STATES ARMY CORPORAL VICTOR TOLEDO PULIDO

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2007

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the life of CPL Victor H. Toledo Pulido, who lost his life defending our Nation in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

After attending high school in California's Central Valley, Victor joined the Army Reserves in 2005. A year later, he signed up for active duty and was stationed at Fort Benning, GA. Victor was proud to serve in the military.

While serving with the 1st Cavalry Regiment based out of Fort Benning, Victor wore his green camouflage uniform with pride. Unfortunately, on Wednesday, May 23, 2007, the vehicle in which Victor traveled was hit with an improvised explosive device. Victor and another soldier were killed in the incident.